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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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# INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 5 September 1952

SUBJECT The Askania Plant in Teltow

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MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION ON THE ASKANIA PLANT

5 September

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The plant was built in 1935/36 and was put into operation in September 1938. Until 1945 the plant belonged to the Heinrich List Firm, and on 30 October 1945 [ ] was confiscated by order of the SMA (Soviet Military Administration). On 1 March 1946 two firms, Elektrofeinbau GmbH (Electrical Precision Instruments, Limited Liability Company) and Askania Precision and Optical Instruments Firm, GmbH, rented the rooms of the expropriated firm and started production. On 7 October 1948 these two firms were also expropriated, and the plant was established as VEB Askania; on 17 March 1951 it was placed directly under the Main Administration for Precision Mechanics and Optics of the Ministry of Machine-Building.

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The plant's machine stock consists of 321 machines [ ] tools, installations, and test stands, most of which are out-of-date. In 1951, 55 percent of the plant's production was delivered as reparations and exports, and 45 percent remained in the GDR. Because of a shortage of workshop space, it is planned to purchase the [ ] Derutra Workshop, which is located opposite the plant and comprises an area of 10,000 square meters; the plant would then occupy an area of [ ] 51,910 square meters.

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